

REMARKS

This paper is submitted in response to the Decision on Appeal, decided April 30, 2007. The amendments made herein reflect consideration of the positions taken by the Examiner in the FINAL Office Action of June 14, 2005, as well as in the Examiner's Answer to Applicant's Appeal Brief, and the Board's discussion in its Decision on Appeal.

For example, the Board emphasized that the claimed "compatible operating configuration" was not going to be given patentable weight, beyond the express language of the claims, but appeared to recognize that Applicant's disclosure DID describe embodiments that were distinct from the cited Ludtke reference. Specifically, the Board stated:

... In particular, while Appellants contend (Br. 4-5) that Ludtke's disclosed display configuration does not encompass the configuration of the graphics cards of the display computers, we find no such requirement in the language of the appealed claims.

(Decision on Appeal, p. 4).

Accordingly, Applicant submits that foregoing amendments, which now expressly require (in the claims) the configuration of graphics circuits of the plurality of networked slave computers in accordance with the compatible operating configuration to cooperate to collectively render a display, wherein the compatible operating configuration specifies a particular display operating mode, clearly and expressly define over the cited art. These defining features are now expressly in the claims and can no longer be ignored by the Patent Office.

Furthermore, the undersigned notes that the “picture-in-picture” mode of Ludtke, referenced by the Examiner (and repeated by the Board), is a functional mode (e.g., the function of displaying picture-in-picture) and not a “display operating mode,” which is a particular mode of operation of a display that must be “configured” prior to entry. This display operating mode (or configured mode) is the very type of “compatible operating configuration” that is discussed in the patent specification, which is properly configured, prior to a plurality of computers being able to properly operate in concert as an SLS (single logical screen).

Further still, any attempt to construe the picture-in-picture mode of Ludtke as the compatible “display operating mode” of the claimed embodiments would require an inconsistent interpretation of dependent claims. For example, dependent claims 2 and 3 require:

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of communicating the specified configuration comprises communicating the specified configuration through a communication socket of each of the plurality of slave computers, and wherein the particular display operating mode is a stereo mode.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of communicating the specified configuration comprises saving at least one slave configuration file in a predetermined location on each of the plurality of slave computers.

There is no teaching in Ludtke of specifying the picture-in-picture configuration information in a “configuration file” or in communicating this configuration information to the networked slave computers through a configuration socket.

In short, the embodiments of the present invention, as expressly specified in the claims (as amended herein) clearly define over the cited art.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are now in proper condition for allowance, and respectfully request that the Examiner pass this case to issuance. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

The fee for the accompanying RCE has been authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Company's deposition account. No additional fee is believed to be due in connection with this Amendment and Response to Office Action. If, however, any additional fee is deemed to be payable, you are hereby authorized to charge any such fee to Hewlett-Packard Company's Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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